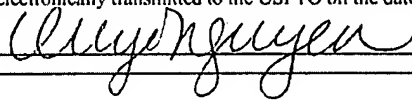


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below.

Date: October 25, 2007

Signature:  (Quyen Nguyen)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/615,491  
Confirmation No.: 8889  
Filing Date: July 7, 2003  
Inventor(s): Bryan LOOMAS et al.  
Title: EXTRAPLEURAL AIRWAY DEVICE AND METHOD  
Examiner: Peter J. Vrettakos  
Group Art Unit: 3739

---

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patent  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated October 1, 2007 for which a response is due on January 1, 2008. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.